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THE RAVEN.

BY THE LATE EDGAR ALLAN POE.

Once upon a midnight dreary, as I pondered,
weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of for-
gotten lore,
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there
came a tapping,
As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my
chamber door—
"Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my
chamber door—
Only this, and nothing more."
Ah, distinctly I remember it was in the bleak De-
cember,
And some separate dying ember wrought its ghost
upon the floor.
Eagerly I wished the morrow;—vainly I sought
to borrow
From my books surcease of sorrow—sorrow for the
lost Lenore—
For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels
name Lenore.
Nameless her for evermore.
And the silken sad uncertain rustling of each
purple curtain
Thrilled me—filled me with fantastic terrors never
felt before;
So that now, to still the beating of my heart,
I soothe myself
"Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my
chamber door—
Only this, and nothing more."
Presently my soul grew stronger; hesitating then
no longer,
"Sir," said I, "or Madam, truly your forgiveness
I implore;
But the fact is, I was napping, and so gently you
came rapping
And so faintly you came tapping, tapping at my
chamber door,
That I scarce was sure I heard you"—here I
opened wide the door;
Darkness there, and nothing more.
Deep into that darkness peering, long I stood there
wondering, fearing,
Doubting, dreaming dreams no mortal ever dared
to dream before;
But the silence was unbroken, and the darkness
gave no token,
And the only word that spoken was the whis-
pered word, "Lenore!"
This I whispered, and an echo murmured back
the word, "Lenore!"
Merely this, and nothing more.
Back into the chamber turning, all my soul within
me burning,
Soon I heard again a tapping somewhat louder
than before.
"Surely," said I, "surely that is something at my
window lattice;
Let me see, then, what thence comes, and this mys-
tery explore."
"Tis the wind and nothing more!"
Open here I flung the shutter, when, with many a
fierce and flutter,
In there stepped a stately raven of the saintly
days of yore;
Not the least discomfited he; not an instant
stopped or stayed he;
But, with mien of lord or lady, perched above my
chamber door—
Perched upon a bust of Pallas just above my
chamber door—
Perched, and sat, and nothing more.
Then this ebony bird beguiling my sad fancy into
smiling,
By the grave and stern decorum of the counte-
nance wore,
"Though thy crest be shorn and shaven, thou," I
said, "art sure no craven,
Ghastly, grim and ancient raven wandering from
the night's seclusion,
Tell me what thy lordly name is on the Night's
Plutonian shore!"
Quoth the raven "Nevermore."
Much I marvelled this ungainly fowl to hear dis-
course so plainly,
Though its answer little meaning—little relevancy
bore;
For we cannot help agreeing that no living human
being
Ever yet was blessed with seeing bird above his
chamber door;
Bird or beast upon the sculptured bust above his
chamber door,
With such name as "Nevermore."
But the raven, sitting lonely on the placid bust,
Spoke only
That one word, as if his soul in that one word he
did outpour.
Nothing farther then he uttered—not a feather
then he fluttered—
Till I scarcely more than muttered, "Other friends
have flown before,
On the morrow he will leave me, as my hopes
have flown before."
Then the bird said, "Nevermore."
Startled at the stillness broken by reply so aptly
spoken,
"Doubtless," said I, "what it utters is its only
stock and store,
Caught from some unhappy master, whom an
unmerciful disaster
Followed fast and followed faster, till his songs
one burden bore—
Till the dinges of his Hope that melancholy bur-
den bore
Of 'Never—nevermore.'"
But the raven still beguiling all my sad soul into
smiling,
Straight I wheeled a cushioned seat in front of
bird and bust and door;
Then, upon the velvet sinking, I betook myself
to linking
Fancy unto fancy, thinking what this ominous
bird of yore—
What this grim, ungainly, ghastly, gaunt, and
ominous bird of yore,
Meant in croaking "Nevermore."
Thus I sat engaged in guessing, but no syllable
expressing
To the fowl whose fiery eyes now burned into my
bosom's core;
This and more I sat divining, with my head to
ease reclining
On the cushion's velvet lining that the lamp-light
gleamed on,
Shall press, ah, nevermore!
Then methought the air grew denser, perfumed
from an unseen censer,
Swung by angels whose faint foot-falls tinkled on
the tulle of floor—
"Wretch!" I cried, "thy God hath lent thee—by
these angels he hath sent thee—
Respite—respite and nepenthe from thy memories
of Lenore!
Quaff, oh quaff this kind nepenthe and forget this
lost Lenore!"
Quoth the raven, "Nevermore."
"Prophet!" said I, "Thing of evil—prophet still,
If bird or devil!
Whether tempter sent, or whether tempter sent
these here ashore,
Desolate yet all undaunted, on this desert land
enchanced—
On this home by horror haunted—tell me truly, I
implore—
Is there—there balm in Gilead?—tell me—tell
me—'Tis appaled!"
Quoth the raven, "Nevermore."
"Prophet!" said I, "Thing of evil—prophet still,
If bird or devil!
By that heaven that bends above us—by that God
we both adore—
Tell this soul with sorrow laden, if—with the dis-
tant Aidenn—

It shall clop a sainted maiden whom the angels
name Lenore—
Clasp a rare and radiant maiden whom the angels
name Lenore!"
Quoth the raven, "Nevermore."
"Be that word our sign of parting, bird or
fiend!" I shrieked, upstarting,
"Get thee back into the tempest and the Night's
Plutonian shore!
Leave no black plume as a token that I lay
my soul bare!"
Leave my loneliness unbroken!—quit the bust
above my door!
Take thy beak from out my heart, and take thy
form from off my door!"
Quoth the raven, "Nevermore."
And the raven, never flitting, still is sitting, still
is sitting,
On the pallid bust of Pallas just above my cham-
ber door;
And his eyes have all the seeming of a demon's
that is dreaming,
And the lamp-light o'er him streaming throws his
shadow on the floor;
And my soul from out that shadow that lies float-
ing on the floor,
Shall be lifted—nevermore!

LIFE AND SERVICES OF GEN. SCOTT.
Winfield Scott was born near Peters-
burg, in Virginia, on the 13th of June, in
the year 1786. He finished his studies at
the college of William and Mary, and was
admitted to the bar in 1808. After practicing
law in Virginia about a year, he emi-
grated to South Carolina.
Our difficulties with England caused
Congress to pass an act, in April 1808, to
increase the army. Scott applied immedi-
ately for a commission in one of the regi-
ments about to be raised, and in May, 1808,
was appointed a Captain of Light Artillery.
War was not actually declared until June,
1812. The interval between 1808 and the
declaration of war, was one of great political
excitement. Scott sided with the Democratic
party supported the election of President
Madison, and approved, advocated, and wrote
in favor of war measures.
In July, 1812, Scott was commissioned
Lieutenant Colonel in the 2d Artillery, and
proceeded to the Niagara Frontier. In Oc-
tober of that year, Lieutenant Elliot applied
to Scott for assistance in men to capture the
Adams and Caledonia, two British vessels
of war, then lying under the protection of
Fort Erie. The vessels were both captured,
but Elliot was compelled to abandon the Ad-
ams. She got aground, and the British at-
tempted to raise her, but were repulsed by
the gallantry of Col. Winfield Scott. This
was the first time he had met the enemy—
and here, as in every subsequent engagement
where he was first in command, he was vic-
torious!
A few days after, was fought the memora-
ble battle of Queenstown Heights. Scott
was the hero of the day, and covered him-
self with glory. The battle lasted for many
hours, and was fought on the part of the
Americans with most fearful odds against them.
The British army having been re-enforced,
numbered not less than thirteen hundred
men, while the Americans were reduced
to less than three hundred. Finding that
the militia on the opposite shore refused,
or was unable to cross to their aid, and that
success was hopeless, Scott's heroic band
were at length compelled to surrender. But
their gallant deeds upon that day carried in-
spiration to every American heart. The
disgrace of Hull's surrender was wiped off—
the taunts of the enemy checked—the char-
acter of the American army redeemed.
Scott was carried a prisoner to Quebec.
While he was there, an incident occurred
which had a most important bearing upon
the future conduct of the war, and deserving
of particular attention.
At that time Great Britain denied the right
of expatriation. In other words, she denied
the right of any of her subjects to become
citizens of another country, contending that
they owed her perpetual allegiance. Accord-
ing to this doctrine, a native of Ireland,
Scotland or England, who had emigrated to
the United States, and become a naturalized
American citizen, remained still a subject of
the British Government, and forfeited his
life for treason if found in arms against her.
The United States denied this doctrine—her
naturalization laws being founded upon the
opposite theory.
While Scott was a prisoner at Quebec, the
British attempted to enforce their doctrine of
perpetual allegiance in regard to certain
Irish prisoners found in the ranks of the
American army at Queenstown. The fol-
lowing is a description of the scene.
Scott being in the cabin deck and hastened up
There he found a party of British officers, and
the act of mustering the prisoners, and ap-
pearing from the rest such as by confession,
or the account of the voice were to be
Irishmen. The object was to send them in
a frigate, then alongside, to England, to be
tried and executed for the crime of high
treason, they being taken in arms against
their native allegiance. Twenty-three had
been thus set apart when Scott reached the
deck. The moment Scott ascertained the
object of the British officers, he commanded
his men to answer no more questions,
in order that no other selections should be
made by the test of speech. He commanded
them to remain silent and they strictly
obeyed. This was done in spite of the
threats of the British officers, and not an-
other man was separated from his companions.
Scott was repeatedly commanded to go be-
low, and high altercations ensued. He ad-
dressed the party selected, and explained to
them fully the reciprocal obligations of al-
legiance and protection, assuring them that
the United States would not fail to avenge
their gallant and faithful soldiers; and final-
ly pledged himself in the most solemn man-
ner, that retaliation, and if necessary, a re-
fusal to give quarter in battle, should follow
the execution of any one of the party. In
the midst of this animated harangue, he was
frequently interrupted by the British officers,
but though unarmed would not be silenced.
The Irishmen thus selected were sent to
England. As soon as Scott was exchanged
he proceeded to Washington and reported
the whole affair to the Secretary of War by a
written communication. This report was
transmitted to Congress, and Scott, in per-
sonal interviews, pressed the subject upon
the attention of members. An act was accord-
ingly passed on the 3d of March, 1813,

vesting the President with the power of re-
lief. In an engagement soon after,
Scott captured a number of prisoners. True
to his pledge given at Quebec, he immedi-
ately selected twenty-three of their number
to be confined in the interior of the country
there to abide the fate of the twenty-three
Irishmen taken at Queenstown and sent to
England for trial.
The result of this firm resolution on the
part of Scott, and of the legislation conse-
quent upon his efforts, was not only to save
the twenty-three Irish prisoners, but to com-
pel England throughout the remainder of
the war, to respect the rights of our natu-
ralized citizens, by virtually abandoning her
claim to perpetual allegiance.
Just after the close of the war as Gen.
Scott was walking along one of the wharves
of New York, he was hailed by his old Irish
friends for whom he had interfered at Que-
bec. They had just been released from the
English prisons—and now rushed to embrace
him as their deliverer.
At the capture of Fort George, on the
27th of May, 1813, Scott led the advanced
guard. He landed on the Canada shore at
Lake Ontario, formed his command on the
beach, and scaled the banks behind which
the British forces were drawn up, fifteen
hundred strong. The action was short and
desperate, but ended in the total rout of
the enemy. Scott was the first man to enter
the fort, and hauled down the British flag
with his own hands.
On the 10th and 11th of November, 1813,
Scott defeated the enemy in two actions,
one at Fort Maitland, the other at Hoploph
Creek.
On the 9th of March, 1814, when only
twenty-seven years of age, Scott was prom-
oted to the rank of Brigadier General.
A few days after this promotion, General
Brown, then chief in command on the Ni-
agara frontier, left Scott at Buffalo, to
construct and drill the army, which was then
concentrating at that point. Scott had entire
charge of the camp of instruction for about
three months. The results of the discipline
and spirit which his teachings had infused
into the Northern army, were soon to be
developed on the fields of Chippewa and
Lundy's Lane.
The battle of Chippewa was fought on the
5th of July, 1813. Scott, with 1900 Amer-
icans, met on an open plain and routed with
the bayonet 2100 of the veteran troops of
England—the very flower of the army—
As the two armies approached to close quar-
ters, Scott called aloud to McNell's bat-
alion—"the enemy say we are good at long
shot, but cannot stand the cold iron! I call
upon the Eleventh instantly to give the lie
to that slander! Charge!" They did
charge. Before Gen. Brown could come up
with the rear division of the American army,
Scott had already won the day, and was in
hot pursuit of the flying enemy. The British
had been beaten with their own boasted
weapon—the bayonet. The valor and skill
of the *Boy General* of twenty-eight had van-
quished all the boasted powers of her world
renowned veterans.
Gen. Brown in his official report of this
battle says: "Brigadier General Scott is en-
titled to the highest praise our country can
bestow. His brigade covered itself with
glory."
The battle of Lundy's Lane (or Niagara
as it is frequently called) was fought on the
25th of July, 1814, just three weeks after
that of Chippewa. The battle commenced
about forty minutes before sunset and con-
tinued until midnight. Here, again, Scott
was the master spirit of the fight. Amer-
ican valor again triumphed over the veteran
regiments of Britain. Scott had two horses
killed under him, was wounded in the side,
but still fought on until the close of the bat-
tle, when he was prostrated by a wound in
the shoulder. This was the hardest fought
battle of the war. Our limited space will
not allow a more extended notice of its de-
tails, and, indeed, it would be superfluous to
recapitulate the events of that glorious day,
familiar as they are to every American
school boy. Where so many have gathered
imperishable laurels, it was truly a proud
honor for the youthful Scott to be hailed by
universal consent, "the hero of Lundy's
Lane."
For his gallantry in these actions, Scott
was soon after promoted to the rank of Major
General. On November 3d, 1814, Congress
passed a resolution awarding a gold medal
to Major General Scott "in testimony of the
high sense entertained by Congress of his
distinguished services in the successive con-
flicts of Chippewa and Niagara, and of his
uniform gallantry and good conduct in sus-
taining the high reputation of the arms of the
United States."
Soon after the treaty of peace, President
Madison tendered to General Scott a place
in his Cabinet—that of the Secretary of
War. This complimentary office was de-
clined from motives highly creditable to
Gen. Scott.
Being still feeble from his wounds, he
soon after went to Europe for the restoration
of his health and for professional improve-
ment. He was also entrusted by the Gov-
ernment with important diplomatic func-
tions. He executed his instructions in so
satisfactory a manner that President Mad-
ison caused to be written to him, by the
Secretary of State, a special letter of thanks.
In 1832, Scott was ordered to take com-
mand in the Black Hawk war. He sailed
from Buffalo for Chicago, with nearly one
thousand troops, in four steamboats.
On the 8th of July, while on the voyage,
the cholera broke out among the troops with
fearful violence. On the boat in which
General Scott sailed with two hundred and
twenty troops, there occurred in six days
one hundred and thirty cases of cholera and
fifty-one deaths. After General Scott had
proceeded from Chicago to the Mississippi
river, the pestilence again broke out among
his troops. During the prevalence of this
terrible scourge, his devoted attention upon
his suffering soldiers, excited the admiration
of all who were present. In the language
of a letter written at the time by an officer
of the army: "The General's course of con-
duct on that occasion should establish for
him a reputation not inferior to that which
he has earned on the battle field; and should

exhibit him not only as a warrior, but as a
man—not only as the hero of battles, but as
the hero of humanity."
After the termination of the Black Hawk
war, Gen. Scott and Gov. Reynolds were
appointed by the U. S. Government com-
missioners to treat with the Northwestern
Indians in reference to all pending difficul-
ties. In the various conferences held with
the deputations from the several tribes, it
became the duty of Gen. Scott to conduct
the discussions. This he did with great
ability and ingenuity, and the result of the
commission was to procure a treaty, just to
the Indians and highly advantageous to the
United States—the Indians ceding their title
to more than ten millions of acres, being a
great portion of the lands of Iowa and Mich-
igan.
After the termination of the Black Hawk
war, and of the treaty with the Indians,
General Cass, then Secretary of War, wrote
in reply to Scott's official report as follows:
"Allow me to congratulate you upon this
fortunate consummation of your arduous
duties, and to express my entire approbation
of the whole course of your proceedings,
during a series of difficulties requiring high
moral courage under the operations of an
active campaign under ordinary circumstan-
ces."
Directly after his return from the Black
Hawk war, Gen. Scott was sent by Presi-
dent Jackson on a confidential mission of
great responsibility. South Carolina nation-
lized then threatened to embroil the nation
in civil war. There was imminent danger
that the strife would at once begin between
the citizens of Charleston and the United
States troops stationed there. The object
of the President in sending Scott to South
Carolina at this time, was to prevent if pos-
sible, any direct act of collision, and at the
same time enforce the laws of the Federal
Government. Scott's moderation and dis-
cretion, while at Charleston, saved the coun-
try from the horrors of civil war. The full
history of his valuable services on that oc-
casion cannot now be written, as much of it
still remains under the seal of secrecy.
On the 20th of January, 1836, Gen. Scott
was ordered to take command in the Florida
war. There he did all that the great
military talents could accomplish. But the
malice or envy of a brother officer, by mis-
representations made to the President, pro-
cured his recall for the purpose of having
his official conduct subjected to the opinion
of a Court of Inquiry. That court after full
investigation, pronounced the charges against
General Scott unfounded and further
that "he had been zealous and indefatigable
in the discharge of his duties, and that his
plan of campaign was all devised and pro-
ceeded with energy, sagacity and ability."
In 1838, Gen. Scott was sent by the Presi-
dent to the Canada frontier—then in the
state of fearful excitement on account of the
burning of the Caroline within the American
territory. The whole population of North-
western New York seemed about to march into
Canada to avenge the wrong which had been
done to the national honor. The object of
the administration was to preserve the peace
between the two nations, until pending dif-
ficulties could be settled by negotiation. For
this purpose Scott was sent to the frontier.
There he labored night and day passing,
rapidly from point to point, superintending
and directing the actions both of the military
and civil authorities—and frequently along
a line of eight hundred miles, addressing
innumerable gatherings of the excited citizens.
He succeeded in his missions beyond the ex-
pectations of the most sanguine. The
peace of the country was preserved.
During the same year he was ordered to
the delicate service of removing the Chero-
kee nation beyond the Mississippi. Here
he displayed at once the highest degree of
energy, sagacity and humanity.
The landing journals of the day were
filled with encomiums upon the conduct of
Scott in these services. The National In-
telligencer of September 27th, 1838, says:
"The manner in which this gallant officer
has acquitted himself within the last year,
upon our Canada frontier, and lately among
the Cherokees, has excited the universal
admiration and gratitude of the whole na-
tion."
In 1839 across the Northeastern Boundary
difficulty. The disputed territory was
about to become the battle ground between
the troops of Maine and New Brunswick.
War was considered inevitable. In this
crisis, General Scott was again deputed by
the Government to calm the rising storm.
His able services on that occasion showed
him to be possessed of the highest talents as
a statesman and a diplomatist. A war con-
sidered inevitable was prevented—the honor
of the country preserved—and Scott returned
with fresh laurels upon his brow, and
"the hero of Lundy's Lane" was hailed on
all sides as the "Great Pacificator."
The services of General Scott in the
Mexican war are of so recent a date, and so
fresh in the recollections of the American
people and the whole civilized world, that
it is useless to do more than make a passing
allusion.
On the 10th of March, 1847, Gen. Scott
arrived before Vera Cruz. On the 14th of
September, 1847, he planned the sars and
strikes upon the National Palace, in the city
of Mexico. Within three months, Santa
Juan d'Ulloa—the American Gibraltar—
was stormed, and the battles of Cerro Gordo,
Contreras, San Antonio, Churubusco, Molino
del Rey, and Chapultepec were fought and
won. With less than ten thousand fighting
men, thirty thousand of the best troops of
Mexico, posted behind the strongest fortifica-
tions, and fighting with the courage of
desperation. Nothing of military achieve-
ment recorded in ancient or modern history,
can excel the glory of that march from Vera
Cruz to the city of Mexico!

Such is a brief sketch of one whose life
has been devoted to the service and glory of
his country—and whose patriotism is en-
larged enough to extend to the whole coun-
try. Born a Southern man—reared and
educated among Southerners—he has fought
and bled alike for the North and South—
and to suppose that he would be willing to
do injustice to either, would be to declare
the last forty years of his life but a lie!
Much abuse has recently been heaped
upon this gallant patriot because he declines
giving written pledges upon the various
questions which may be involved in the ap-
proaching Presidential election. We doubt
not that several of the gentlemen now prom-
inent before the Democratic party would
cheerfully give pledges of any kind what-
ever, provided they could thereby secure a
nomination. It is not difficult to make
promises, and it is a very easy thing to
break them. We would point to an illustri-
ous example in the history of the Democr-
atic party which occurred but few years since.
A certain Presidential candidate gave a writ-
ten pledge that he was in favor of the pro-
tective system—got tariff votes thereby—
but as soon as elected became a sudden
convert to the doctrine of free trade!
When a citizen has been for nearly half
a century in the service of his country, his
past history is the best guaranty of his future
conduct.
MILITARY CAREER OF GEN. PIERCE.
The Democrats have nominated a military
hero as their candidate for the Presidency—
relying upon the popular admiration and
gratitude which brilliant deeds on the field
of battle, in defence of the rights and honor
of the country are sure to command, for his
election. It becomes important, therefore,
to scan the history of his military career,
and to ascertain whether there is good ground
for electing him, as a military man, over
Winfield Scott. We copy, from the Cov-
ington (Ky.) Journal, the following outline
of the career of Gen. Pierce in Mexico, con-
densed from documents accompanying Presi-
dent Polk's Annual Message to the first ses-
sion of the Thirtieth Congress.
1. The first duty assigned to Gen. Pierce
in Mexico was to take up a reinforcement of
2400 men from Vera Cruz to the main army
then well advanced into the interior. Gen.
Scott was waiting for this additional force,
to make the descent upon the city of Mexico.
Pierce's movements had been so tardy, that
at Perote he received a letter from General
Smith, in which he was informed that Gen.
Scott "experienced great anxiety" on account
of his command. Gen. Pierce, in answer
to this letter, does not give particularly the
causes of this delay, but says they will be
furnished by his aid-de-camp, Lieut. Thom.
He, however, adds: "I have really encour-
aged nothing that can be construed into ac-
cused resistance." [Gen. Pierce to Gen.
Scott, Appendix, p. 26.]
2. Gen. Pierce finally reached Gen. Scott
with his command. On the 19th of August,
1847, in the evening, commenced a series
of achievements, unsurpassed in the annals
of military operations. The first in the se-
ries was the attack on the enemy at San An-
tonio. Gens. Twiggs, Shields, Smith, and
Caldwell are honorably mentioned.—
"Pierce's brigade" is spoken of, but Pierce
himself is not named.—[Gen. Scott's dis-
patch to Secretary of War, p. 303.] We
learn from Gen. Pierce's report [Appendix,
p. 106], that on this afternoon, he received
severe hurt from the fall of his horse.
We learn from Gen. Pillow's report that this
accident occurred to Pierce just as he was
leading his brigade into the thickest of the
fight.
3. Early on the next morning, August 20,
the battle of Contreras was fought. During
the night Gen. Pierce had received orders
from the General-in-Chief to assemble all
the forces in his immediate neighborhood,
and occupy a position in order to create a
diversion in favor of Brigadier-General
Smith, who was to storm the enemy's works
at dawn of day. Gen. Pierce says: "Being
physically unable to keep my saddle, or to
walk in consequence of a severe injury
from my horse the day before, the command
of this force devolved upon Col. Ransom."
The 9th Infantry.—[Pierce's Report, p.
105.] Shields, Smith, Caldwell, Riley, &c.,
are honorably mentioned by the com-
mander-in-Chief.
4. The same day, directly after the
battle of Contreras, Pierce was in his saddle
and in the movement against Churubusco,
was ordered to attack (under Shields)
the enemy's right and rear. In this position
Shields and Pierce were hard pressed, and
here Gen. Pierce failed. Gen. Scott in his
dispatch (page 313) says: "Brigadier
General Pierce, from the hurt of the even-
ing before—under pain and exhaustion—
FAINTED IN THE ACTION." Gen. Pierce him-
self says (Appendix, p. 106): "In this posi-
tion our troops received a most gallant fire,
which for a time, threw them into confusion."
The intrepid General Shields,
supported by Col. Ransom, succeeded in
bringing portions of the command into order."
"This accident [the fall of his horse]
rendered me unable to struggle with the dif-
ficulties of the ground over which we were
obliged to pass on the evening of the last
day [the 20th], and in the effort to do so I
fell." (Ain from exhaustion and pain.)
5. On the 24th of August, an armistice
was agreed upon between Gens. Scott and
Santa Anna. At the expiration of about two
weeks the latter violated the truce, and hos-
tilities were resumed. The first engagement
was at the Molino del Rey, Sept. 7. In his
dispatch, Gen. Scott says: "The enemy
having several times reinforced his line and
the action soon becoming much more gen-
eral than I had expected, I called up from
the distance of three miles, first, Major General
Pillow, with his remaining brigade (Pierce's)
and next Riley's brigade (Pierce's) division.
These corps approached with zeal and rap-
idity; but the battle was won just as Brig-
adier General Pierce reached the ground."
—Scott's dispatch, p. 356.] Gen. Worth
says: "The battle had been won more than
one hour before Gen. Pierce's brigade or
any other support, reached the ground."
[Ex. Doc. No. 60, p. 1067.]
Next in order was the storming of Chapul-
tepec, Sept. 13. During the engagement
Gen. Pillow was struck down by an ag-
gravating wound. The immediate command
devolved on Brig. Gen. Caldwell, in the
absence of the Senior Brigadier (Pierce)
of the same division." Finding Gen. Pierce
absent on this important occasion, we turn
to seek the cause, and from his own report

get it as follows: "As soon as it became suf-
ficiently dark to conceal the manoeuvre, the
brigade was directed by the General com-
manding the division to move silently under
cover of a long range of buildings, known
as the Molino del Rey, which is immedi-
ately under the guns of Chapultepec. Previ-
ously to this moment, however, I was com-
pelled to leave the field in consequence of severe
indisposition, which confined me to my bed
during the 13th, and of course, deprived me
of the satisfaction of participating with my
brigade in the glorious achievements of that
day."—Pierce's Report, Appendix, p. 198.
7. Notwithstanding Gen. Pierce's "severe
indisposition," he was up, bright and early,
on the morning after the battle. He says:
"At 4 o'clock on the morning of the 14th, I
rejoined that portion of my brigade (9th reg-
iment) then acting under the orders of Gen.
Quimán, at the garita on the Tacubaya road;
the 15th regiment having previously been
directed to remain as a garrison to Chapul-
tepec. In this position I remained until
the news of the surrender of the city was
communicated to Gen. Quitman."—[Pierce's
report, Ap. p. 190.]
This closes Gen. Pierce's active opera-
tions in Mexico. Let us recapitulate:
1. His tardy movement in coming up
with reinforcements, caused the command-
er-in-Chief to experience "great anxiety."
2. On the evening of the 19th August,
in his first engagement with the enemy, his
horse fell with him just as he was lead-
ing his brigade into the thickest of the
fight.
3. On the morning of the 20th of Aug-
ust, at the battle of Contreras, the command
of Pierce's brigade devolved upon Col. Ran-
som, in consequence of the disability of
Pierce.
4. On the afternoon of the same day
Gen. Pierce was in his saddle, and in the
battle that immediately followed at Churu-
busco, fainted in the action.
5. In the battle at the Molino del Rey, it
was Pierce's misfortune that "the battle was
won just as he reached the ground."
6. On the eve of the battle of Chapulte-
pec, just as his command was taking the po-
sition that had been assigned to it, Pierce
was taken sick, and remained sick during
the day of the battle.
7. But the next morning, as early as
4 o'clock, was on duty, rejoined a portion of
his brigade at the garita on the Tacubaya
road; and there remained until news came of
the surrender of the city of Mexico.
We venture to say that the world's history
will not furnish a parallel instance in
which an officer of like rank met with such
a series of misfortunes, accidents, and casu-
alties as befel Gen. Pierce in Mexico, in the
short period of three weeks.
HON. WILLIAM A. GRAHAM.
Honorable WILLIAM A. GRAHAM, the
present Whig nominee for Vice-President
of the United States, is a native of Lincolnton,
in Lincoln county, one of the Western
shires of North Carolina, and is descended
from a highly respectable and ancient rev-
olutionary stock. About the year 1824 or
1825, he graduated with distinction at the
University of his native State, located at
Chapel Hill, in Orange county. The late
James K. Polk was educated at the same
institution. Mr. Graham completed his
collegiate term when scarcely more than in
his eighteenth summer, and at that early
period gave decided presages of a brilliant
future.
He very soon embarked in political life,
but turned his attention chiefly to the study
of the law. In both pursuits he was suc-
cessful, winning his way to public consid-
eration, not by any covert or skillful arts
of management or intrigue, but by diligence,
faithfulness, close application to business,
an honest ambition, and irreproachable
sincerity of character. He has never
sought preferment, but has uniformly shown
himself endowed with those qualities and
capabilities which are almost always sure to
acquire it. On several occasions he rep-
resented one or another county in the Legis-
lature of North Carolina, and was elected
to the Speakership. Subsequently he filled
the office of Governor of the State with credit
to himself and satisfaction to the constitu-
ents.
Upon the completion of this duty, he
was appointed to a vacancy in the Senate of
the United States. At present he fills with
ability the post of Secretary of the Navy.
General Taylor tendered him the nomination
of Ministerial Representative to the Court
of Madrid, which he prudently de-
clined. He is not easily seduced by the
illusions of titled honors, and no one discerns
more readily the distinction between phan-
toms and realities. He follows no dazzling
lights. In independent, if not affluent cir-
cumstances, he persuaded himself that the
interests of a rising family did not require
that they should be brought in contact with
the seductive allurements and expensive
formalities of a foreign court. He was ap-
prehensive of the malign tendencies of such
strange associations, and his conclusions
were sound and rational. Such esoteric
influences, indeed, have often proved detri-
mental to other than youthful minds, by ex-
citing in them a prejudicial taste of foreign
customs and pleasures, and impairing their
by the Roman vigor and Spartan simplicity
of republican life. Such were the appre-
hensions entertained by Mr. Graham, and
he was unwilling, from motives of personal
aggrandizement, to hazard the interests of
those who were committed to his charge.
Considerations like these are not often re-
spected by men whose ambition has once felt
the stimulus of public promotion.
In person Mr. Graham is tall and slender,
having a dignified presence, an intellectual
countenance, aquiline features, a bright,
penetrating, hazel eye, and manners pre-
serving grace and gracefulness, but slightly reserved.
He is distinguished for uprightness of char-
acter, solidity of judgment, and cool sagaci-
ty; is eminently conservative in his views
and principles, and enjoys in a striking de-
gree that simplicity of purpose, freedom from
ostentation, hearty patriotism, and unaf-
fected sobriety, which usually characterize the
public men of the Old North State.
His past career clearly prognosticates his
future celebrity and success, and affords

ample assurance that the highest trust may
be confided to him with safety and propie-
ty.
It is somewhat remarkable that Mr. Gra-
ham claims for his North Carolina home, the
quiet and secluded little town of Hillsboro-
ugh, and that in another town of the iden-
tical name in New Hampshire, the Demo-
cratic Presidential nominee is said to have
been born. There is another coincidence,
much less accidental, but more worthy of
notice, in the character and fortunes of these
two distinguished individuals. Entertaining
opposite political creeds, and gratified with
the high political position they had achieved
—both of them occupying seats in the United
States Senate whilst still comparatively
in their youthful prime—they were alike
willing to lay aside the coveted robes of
office, and to withdraw, each of them to a
small and obscure country town, quietly to
pursue the avocations, and to practice the
substantial virtues and duties of private citi-
zenship. Mr. Graham did not resign his
seat as Mr. Pierce did, but was satisfied
when the brief time for which he served was
completed. They are both of them about
the same age.
Many persons will recall to mind the dis-
trust which was originally felt by a great
many in regard to the caucus system, when
first introduced into this country by party
manoeuvres, some years since. It was looked
upon as the cunning work of faction, and
as having a tendency to foster political in-
trigues and brawling demagogues, to the
unjust exclusion of meritorious men, in the
distribution of the spoils and awards of office.
But if party conventions shall continue to
select such men of patriotism and merit as
they have recently preferred, they will not
only be faithful representatives of the popu-
lar will, but steadfast adherents and sup-
porters of the federal compact.
The hero of a hundred battles, who is
now vouching his aspirations for the attain-
ment of the Presidential prize, could not be
associated with a more worthy, discreet, and
acceptable colleague than Mr. Graham.
Strategy may, perhaps, be as skillfully em-
ployed in a political, as in a military cam-
paign; but on this occasion it will hardly be
called into requisition. The unbiased
instincts of the people will guide them in the
choice of their rulers, into whose custody
are to be placed, not only the mighty inter-
ests of American liberty and progress, but
collaterally, the universal alliance of free-
dom and of equal rights throughout the
world.
In a nation like this, its permanent pro-
gressive welfare and prosperity must depend,
to a considerable extent, upon a wise and
consistent course of legislation. And, in
the event of a Whig triumph, if any "hasty
pieces of soup" shall be served up at the
White House, Mr. Graham will be sure to
let his allowance cool before he dips into it.
He relishes nothing hasty, hot, or strong.
Journal of Commerce.
MILLARD FILLMORE.
Entered Congress (House) in 1833, served
one term, then was out one term, then was
again elected and served six years, making
eight in all. He was generally in a minority
(and of course Chairman of no committee)
until 1841 when the memorable XXVth
Congress assembled, having a large Whig
majority, and Mr. F. was made Chairman of
the Committee of Ways and Means—mak-
ing him the leader of the House—a position
which he filled with eminent ability and
industry. He is not a ready man, and
made no figure in debate, but always knew
what he wanted to say, said it in the fewest
words, and won the entire confidence of the
House; by evincing solid judgment and
business talent. No leader for many years
has enjoyed more influence